Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of)	·	
BERKSHIRE CABLE CORPORATION)	File No.	
d/b/a BERKSHIRE LONG DISTANCE,)		
Transferor.)		
)		
and)		
)		
CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, Transferee)		

APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF CONTROL

Pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 63.01 of the Commission's Rules, Berkshire Cable Corporation d/b/a Berkshire Long Distance ("Berkshire") and Citizens Communications Company ("Citizens"), hereby request Commission approval to transfer control to Citizens of the blanket Section 214 authorization associated with the provision of domestic interstate services currently provided by Berkshire.¹

I. Description of Transaction and Public Interest Statement

This transfer of control is requested in the context of a proposed transaction to effect a merger wherein Berkshire Telephone Corporation, the parent of Berkshire, will survive as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Citizens. Pursuant to that agreement, Berkshire will continue the provision of telecommunications services, including provision of interstate domestic services under the subject blanket Section 214 authorization.

The parties are filing simultaneously herewith an Application for Consent to Transfer of Control of Berkshire's International Section 214 Authorization (File No. ITC-214-19970416-00213). Applications for the transfer of control of various wireless licenses are also filed or being filed with the Commission.

Berkshire is a privately-owned telecommunications company, providing local exchange and exchange access services to rural communities in New York State, as well as cable television services. In addition, Berkshire provides interstate and international services within its LEC service territory.

Citizens, a Delaware corporation, is a publicly traded, diversified public utility. All officers and directors of Citizens are US citizens. Through its operating subsidiaries and divisions, it will, upon closing of all pending and announced transactions, provide both regulated and competitive telecommunications to approximately 3 million customers is more than 25 states. In addition, Citizens provides electric, gas, water and wastewater services.

Citizens is a veteran in the provision of telecommunications services to rural and suburban communities, and has entered into the instant proposed transaction to further its business objective of expanding its operations to capitalize on efficiencies afforded by "critical mass," focusing on smaller and rural markets. The proposed transaction will serve the public interest by affording existing Berkshire customers with innovative and cost-effective services, enabled by the combined size and depth of Citizens' telecommunications interests. Existing customers will suffer no adverse impact due to the transaction, which will be transparent to consumers. The history of excellent customer service provided under Berkshire's current owners will be continued under Citizens' ownership.

The Commission may take official notice of Citizens' qualifications as a provider of domestic interstate services, as demonstrated through its control of currently operating subsidiaries and divisions. Because the proposed transfer of control is in the public interest, convenience and necessity and otherwise complies with applicable law and regulations, the parties respectfully request prompt grant of this Application.

II. Contact Information

Contact information for Transferor, Berkshire Cable Corporation d/b/a Berkshire Long

Distance (a New York corporation):

Mr. Brian F. Kelly
President
Berkshire Cable Corporation
d/b/a Berkshire Long Distance
19 Broad Street
Kinderhook, New York 12106
Telephone (518) 758-9951

Contact information for Transferee, Citizens Communications Company (a Delaware

corporation):

Mr. L. Russell Mitten II General Counsel Citizens Communications Company Three High Ridge Park Stamford, Connecticut 06905 Telephone (203) 614-5047

Copies of communications to the parties should be sent to their counsel:

Sylvia Lesse Kraskin, Lesse & Cosson, LLP Suite 520 2120 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037 Telephone (202) 296-8890

III. Conclusion

As demonstrated above, grant of this Application is in the public interest. Accordingly, the Parties request prompt approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Berkshire Cable Corporation d/b/a Berkshire Long Distance

Citizens Communications Company

By:

Sylvia Lesse Their Attorney

Kraskin, Lesse & Cosson, LLP Suite 520 2120 L Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037 (202) 296-8890

May 21, 2001

DECLARATION OF BRIAN F. KELLY

I, Brian F. Kelly, President of Berkshire Cable Corporation d/b/a Berkshire Long Distance ("Berkshire"), do hereby declare under penalty of perjury that I have read the foregoing "Application for Transfer of Control" and that the facts stated therein with respect to Berkshire are true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Brian F. Kel

Dated: 5/16/01

DECLARATION OF L. RUSSELL MITTEN II

I, L. Russell Mitten II, General Counsel of Citizens Communications Company ("Citizens"), do hereby declare under penalty of perjury that I have read the foregoing "Application for Transfer of Control" and that the facts stated therein with respect to Citizens are true and correct, to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Dated: 5/18/01

ANTI-DRUG ABUSE ACT CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to Sections 1.2001-1.2003 of the Commission's Rules, Citizens Communications Company ("Citizens") hereby certifies that neither it, nor any of its officers or directors, nor any of the shareholders holding 5 percent or more of the outstanding stock or shares (voting and/or non-voting) of Citizens is subject to a denial of federal benefits that include FCC benefits pursuant to Section 5301 of the Federal Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, 21 U.S.C. § 862.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY

By:

L. Russell Mitten II General Counsel

Date: 5/18/01

MAY 16 101 15:00

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Sandi Griffis, of Kraskin, Lesse & Cosson, LLP, 2120 L Street, NW, Suite 520, Washington, DC 20037, do hereby certify that on this 21st day of May, 2001, a copy of the foregoing International Section 214 Application for Berkshire Cable Corporation was mailed, first class postage prepaid, to the following:

Sandi Griffis

The Honorable George E. Pataki Governor, State of New York State Capitol Albany, NY 12224

Department of Defense Assistant Secretary of Defense for C3I 1000 Defense Pentagon, Room 3E172 Washington, DC 20301-1000

Department of State EB/CIP/SCA Room 4826 2201 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20520

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* Via Hand Delivery